

THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

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CROSBY S. NOYES, Editor

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THE STAR has a regular and permanent Family Circulation much more than the combined circulation of the other Washington dailies. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

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The Bryan Bugle Note.

In a way, Mr. Bryan's announcement has cleared the atmosphere. He operates both as a challenge to his enemies and an inspiration to his friends. Both sides will now get busy. The enemies of Mr. Bryan, using the famous sporting phrase, must put up or shut up. If they have a stronger man for the party leadership than he is they must produce him. Mere assertion is no longer interesting. If they have no one, but have simply been on a fishing expedition, they must go over to Mr. Bryan, or to the republicans. Taking to the woods is neither popular nor effective.

Immediately there are notices of conferences. Mr. Taggart has called a meeting of the democratic national committee at the French Lick Springs in Indiana to discuss next year and the prospects. There are all sorts of waters at that resort, including strong waters, and the discussion should be animated. Mr. Taggart as to the Bryan issue is in a state of bewilderment. In 1900 his associations were Bryanite. In 1904 his associations were Parkerite. He is an adjustable politician, and passes easily from faction to faction. But his present attitude scarcely signifies, because he does not dominate the national committee.

Leader Murphy of Tammany Hall has gone to a health resort in Michigan, and while there will meet a few democratic leaders and take party stock. He is not in politics for his health, but must be in health to stay in politics, and so is strengthening himself for next year's campaign. To win, the democracy must carry New York, and to carry New York it must look to Tammany. Hence the prominence of such a man as Murphy in the presidential equation.

And now comes Chairman Connors of the New York state democratic committee with the announcement that on Jackson day, January 8, a dinner will be eaten in New York city by prominent democrats from all over the country, and a consultation held as to democratic duty. Mr. Connors is anti-Bryan down to the ground, and has picked Lieut. Gov. Chanler as his favorite, decorating him with a certificate of capacity for what Mr. Connors felicitously calls the presidential job. This is the way Mr. Connors speaks of the function over which he is to preside:

"On that occasion we are to have a full consultation of the representatives of the democratic party of the country. This function is to be for no man and against no man. The democratic party of the country is to be united in its support to a general understanding as to the best interests of the party in the nation. Out of this event may come some sort of an understanding as to policies. We have a great opportunity and we are happily confronted with a splendid chance to win. We should all get together and ascertain the best judgment of the party both as to a candidate and as to issues."

Here is fresh evidence of the straits in which the democracy finds itself. Unhappy at the prospect of having to try again with the twice-defeated Bryan, it is depending for relief upon the joint machinations of an ex-captain, an ex-barker, and an ex-boxer of longshoremen on the lake docks of Buffalo. Shades of Thiden, Thurman, Hendricks, Bayard and others!

Big Gun Contest?

The suggestion is made that there be held an international gunnery shoot. The international rifle shoot is now a time-honored institution, though perhaps not developed to its highest point of interest and benefit. The international gunnery contest is not so international in character as it might be made, and not so much so as a contest in gunnery would probably be. A real international military rifle contest should be between bodies of soldiery, for example, the nation entering the contest to be represented by a regular regiment, and that regiment not to be loaded with the best shots from other regiments, but to go against the best of the same men who would follow its colors to the field. One would get a better line on military shooting in this way than by examining the remarkable scores made by a few phenomenal shots.

In the matter of an international gunnery shoot, a correspondent writes to Harper's Weekly as follows:

"An international big-gun contest between the five leading nations, each with such others as may desire to contest, each nation to be represented by one battleship and one cruiser selected after preliminary national competition, final to be held in the Mediterranean sea, and to consist of several different events for twelve, nine, six, and four inch guns, to be had under similar conditions and with identical and exact distances. Prizes and awards could be given by international certificate awarded the ship and medals to officers and gun crews."

"This plan is as feasible as an international rifle match, and I am sure would provoke no hostile spirit or impulse making for war; rather a generous and manly rivalry, a better and more cordial understanding between nations, and the establishing of that mutual respect and esteem which so surely avoids war."

It might prove to be a good scheme. Healthy competitions in sports, where everything is on the square, make for better understanding and appreciation of the peoples. And this makes for amity.

Nobody has thought it necessary to have an explanation of why so much of the country's money should be concentrated in New York banks.

A London physician who says that kissing injures the teeth provokes a suspicion that the British method of osculation is overextended.

"Overextension" and Its Results.

There are three thousand actors idle in New York. Men and women who ordinarily are employed at this season of the year are without engagements today, and some of them without the means of support. And the theatrical season is two months old. They are on the tramp daily now for employment, with but slender hopes of reward. Many of them are back from brief road tours, which ended disastrously for all concerned. Actors, managers, playwrights, were all engulfed together.

The cause of the trouble? If a presidential campaign were in progress the national administration would be held responsible. We should be told that there was another evidence of the far-reaching effects of the President's course. The right of the people had extended even to the show business. Hoarding being in order, there was no money for theater tickets. The people must deny themselves many things until brighter days. The average spellbinder, who asserts everything and proves nothing, could take that text and from a cart's tail set a gaping crowd wild.

Now, as is well known, the trouble in the theatrical world springs from the same cause as that in the financial world. Managers, like the bankers, have "over-extended" themselves. Too many of them have gone into wild-cat enterprises, and been "killing" poor plays and poor players at the expense of the public confidence. The result has been poor business, and a consequent disbandment of poor actors. Patrons of the theater have refused to support such appeals to them. But the good plays are prospering. There is as much money as ever for those who bid for patronage with meritorious offerings. Managers of good judgment and prudent methods, like bankers of that quality, are not complaining, except as to the harm done business by their reckless brethren.

Wild-cat bankers abuse the President because he calls attention to reprehensible business practices. They saddle him with the blame for the loss of public confidence. In like manner, and with as little justice, wild-cat managers are trying to saddle some of the responsibility for their discomfiture on the reviewers of the drama for the daily press. The light turned on has shown the tawdriness and unworthiness of the poor plays, and forced them off the stage. But whose duty is it to tell the truth about all theatrical offerings, or those managers who, either through poor judgment or excessive cupidity, have abused the trust and patience of the public and been exposed?

Slaughter and "Sport."

Kaiser William has been doing a little hunting lately during his stay in England, and a report now comes that the other day, during a pleasant drive at Windsor, he bagged no less than 700 birds. Inasmuch as he shoots with only one hand, with guns of especially light weight manufactured for him, this record is regarded as phenomenal. But over in Germany such doings are better understood and create less interest. It is the usual thing for the kaiser to bring in the biggest bag of the day. Indeed, no one who is aware of the etiquette of the field dares to approach his record. Once in a while some stranger to the unwritten law of the covert blunders ahead and kills more birds than the kaiser, and then he finds that he has become persona non grata. He is never again included in the list of guests at a royal shoot. Inasmuch as the kaiser shoots on the preserves of his titled subjects quite as much as on his own it is incumbent upon his hosts to keep a close watch upon the performances of their other guests. It is good form to miss, and form to hit too often. There are whippersnappers, too, of keepers doing things to the returns that would make a Tammany election clerk green with envy.

Seven hundred pheasants in one day! That is called sport over in England. A crowd of men advance in a long line across a wide estate, which has been carefully preserved from poachers for months and where the birds have been fed and tended and almost tamed. Beaters go through the bushes ahead of the guests, and the pheasants are driven up to the slaughter. He is a sport who cannot bring down several dozen during the morning.

An American guest at one of these wholesale blood-lettings inconsiderately asked what was done with the victims, which sometimes in the course of a single day number several thousand. He was puzzled by the strained silence that followed, and later pursued the inquiry with one of the beaters, who informed him that the birds were shipped to the London market, the returns from which formed a considerable part of the income of the noble family. This, indeed, is generally accepted as a steady source of revenue, but no one is ever so rude as to hint that there is anything inconsistent in the fact of an aristocrat selling game to the London market, and at the same time refusing to countenance the social aspirations of those who are in "trade."

Probably King Edward finds some other way to dispose of the birds and his guests stay. But whatever the economic aspect of the hunting the thought of so much life-taking is certainly unpleasant. There is a great deal of barbarism still in this world of ours, after all.

Holiday Buying.

Shop early. The woman who shops early is in better temper to make judicious selections, has more time to devote to making purchases, a less rumpled assortment of goods to choose from, and above all is apt to receive more effective and considerate service from the clerks. Women are prone to making early-shopping resolutions and are also prone to breaking them. Really, the results might be worth the effort of a good trial.

In addition to the utilitarian feature of early shopping, there is the humanitarian feature. A New York woman has formulated the following rules for Christmas shopping:

"First—Do as much as possible of your shopping before December 1.
"Second—Have it all done one week before Christmas.
"Third—Shop early in the day.
"Fourth—Carry home as many parcels as possible.
"Fifth—Do not ask to have parcels delivered on the day of purchase.
"Sixth—Do not ask to have articles sent home on approval.
"Seventh—Do not shop during lunch hours, thus shortening the hour for the clerks."

There is so much common sense in these rules that all women might adopt them with profit to themselves, the merchants and the clerks.

Forebodings as to a war with Japan would be unquestionably serious if wrestling held any recognized place in modern warfare.

South African generosity with gems may yet cause the ruler of Great Britain to be irreverently referred to as the king of diamonds.

People who venture presidential predictions a year in advance are quite as unreliable as the long-distance weather prophets.

A popular subscription bond issue will give people who do not like banks a chance to invest their money with Uncle Sam.

Japanese laborers continue to arrive in numbers which do not indicate any particular race prejudice.

The Wrong Time.

From the Chicago Record-Herald.
"This is the wrong time for the heirs of George Washington to put in an appearance. At the moment they would have to be contented with a clearing-house certificate."

Cat That Comes Back.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.
"The Tammany tiger has more lives than any other feline."

But Mr. Tillman need not fear a dull time. He agrees with so few people, and is so emphatic in expressing his opinions, he will not want for a foe when the bugle sounds and the onset begins. While the pitchfork holds out to prod, the Senate never will learn to nod.

There is no question of the enormous resources of the country nor of the need of production. The difficulty appears to be so great a condition of prosperity that there is not enough currency to handle it.

The ship on which Secretary Taft arrived at Vladivostok is called the Rainbow, which is a good name for a boat which carries so fridicent a presidential boom.

Grover Cleveland does not see why he should be the only man in the country to express surprise at W. J. Bryan's willingness to accept a presidential nomination.

Gov. Hughes continues to maintain the attitude of a man who is not obliged to depend on politics for a living.

Of course, care will be taken not to give the art critics a chance to find fault with the design of the new bonds.

After all, the present is perhaps no time to criticize the external appearance of gold coins.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Dire Expectation.

"Did you have an excuse for staying away from school today?" said one small boy.

"No," answered the other, "but if father delivers the chastisement I expect, I'll have a good excuse for staying away tomorrow."

A Kind Word for Charley.
"I suppose," said the caller, "that your husband expects to win a great deal of money at the races."

"Yes," answered young Mrs. Torkina, "I don't think that for the next week or two anybody will be able to accuse Charley of hoarding his money."

Not an Authority.

He vowed our currency was bad. He called each financier a dunce; And yet they say he never had Eleven dollars at one time!

Elasticity.

"What we need," said the financier, "is an elastic currency."

"Yes," answered the insurance expert, "the time is past when a captain of industry can hope to get through merely with an elastic conscience."

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "will never be satisfied with any bank system that don't give 'em de privilege of exchanging 1 O. U. 's for real money."

Unique.

The hero-worshippers had grown A-weary of each name Which had so frequently been shown Upon the scroll of fame. Their smiles and plaudits had become Exceeding faint and few; They murmured "Can't you bring out some Comparatively new?"

And then upon their dazzled sight There burst a figure strange. Their eyes took on a joyous light. So glorious was the change. The herald proudly shouted "Let The populace make room! He never had no hope to get A presidential boom!"

Looking Forward.

From the Baltimore Sun.
The prevailing policy in this country has been from the beginning to live for the present with any regard for the future. The public lands are lavishly bestowed, fraudulently or legally, and without any consideration of the present or future value to the public. Forests are destroyed without any provision for renewal and with no care for the needs of the next generation. Coal lands owned by the government are given over to private or corporate interests without regard to the impositions that may be made by future owners on the people. In Oklahoma the people have foresight, but reserve from homestead occupation a large tract of public lands which will be used for the future support of the education of forest lands out of the reach of the lumber trust, and in the interest of that trust Congress tied his hands by restrictive laws.

In calling this conference the President is making a move in the right direction, and it is to be hoped that the movement will be heartily supported by the governors and others to whom he has appealed.

Food and Air.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.
Food sense is still hampered with fads, but it is becoming a science and a cult. No qualified authority is ready to say that a meat diet can with the best results be abandoned. What the qualified men do say is that far less nutritious food than is usually consumed in America suffices for nutrition and is better for general health, showing its benefit in longevity. Science will not say that slow and thorough mastication will stop disease or perfect digestion, but it is peremptory in advising a mastication as thorough as the prompt appetite for food permits. Too much holding of food in the mouth may cause dislike or indifference, and the proper digestive action depends upon enjoyment. Food is not to be held a long time in bad atmospheric conditions, but we know positively that oxygenation of the blood is indispensable, and that fresh air is a remedial agent of more potency than ten years ago we fancied.

Hazing.

From the Baltimore American.
The present first class of midshipmen at the Naval Academy, who have pledged themselves voluntarily against a revival of hazing in any way, are to be commended for their perception of what is meant by their future as officers and gentlemen of the United States Navy. It is to be hoped that in time a higher standard will obtain in all our colleges by which this element of brutality and bullying will be made a relic of the past.

Tiny Tim's New Job.

From the Detroit Journal.
Washington reports that Hon. T. L. Woodruff is at the White House in the capacity of Timothy-the-Governor-Hughes-Killer.

Women as Workers.

From the New York World.
Woman suffrage in Finland promptly brings a prohibitionist triumph. In this country wide regions are going as dry as Sahara without woman suffrage. And there you are.

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Cat That Comes Back.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.
"The Tammany tiger has more lives than any other feline."

Doesn't Come Every Day.

From the St. Paul Dispatch.
We will all be glad of the opportunity to extend our sympathy to such a Harri-man in misfortune.

Full Dress and Tuxedo Suits for Hire.

\$15 and \$16 SUITS to Measure, \$8.80

A value such as Horn alone could or would give, and it is only possible with me because I have been able to secure some extraordinary values lately owing to the stringency of the money market. Choice of blacks and mixtures in many good patterns, and a faultless fit guaranteed.

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The R. P. Andrews Paper Co. (Inc.) has purchased the stock of the NICHOLS STATIONERY STORE. Sale starts today at 913 E St.

Holiday Stationery at Cost. Don't Miss This Sale.

"Gift" Leather.

Why not let the gift this season be of leather? You'll find many handsome articles in this vast collection.

Wrist Bags, Vanity Bags, Pocketbooks, beautiful shades, special from \$1 up

KNEESSI'S, 425 7th St. Bet. D and E Sts. Phone M. 2000.

Burchell's "Bouquet" Coffee, 25c lb.

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A \$9.00 Dress Length for \$3.98

Tomorrow, and for the remainder of this week, if the 1,000 Dress Lengths hold out, we will sell French Voiles, Silk-warp Voile, Silk-warp Crepe de Paris, Fine French Eolienne and Extra Quality All-wool Crepe de Chine. These fabrics are full 45 inches wide and first qualities. Colors are cream, light blue, copenhagen, Alice, plum, reseda, red, tan, gray, brown, navy, myrtle, etc., etc.

7 Yards, Full Dress Pattern,

15c Half Hose, 10c. Or three pairs for 25c.

120 dozen Men's Absolutely Seamless Black Half Hose, in sizes from 9 to 11. Regular 15c quality. Special..... 10c 3 for 25c.

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Thirty inches long; semi-fitting; trimmed with black silk braid and fancy buttons; coat lined with gray silk; sizes 32 to 44. Worth \$35.00. Special..... \$26.75

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Of cheviot; strictly tailored; trimmed with stitched straps; jacket lined with satin; sizes 34 to 40. Worth \$13.50. Special..... \$10.00

Of cheviot, in blue or black; twenty-eight inches long, lined with satin; these coats are especially for small women; sizes 14, 16, 18 and 20. Worth \$12.50. Special..... \$8.95

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72-inch Scotch Damask; the \$1.75 quality. Special, per yard..... \$1.45 Napkins to match.

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16-inch Tied-fringe Bleached Damask Doilies, \$1.50 grade. Per doz. \$1.25

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